

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2009

Presiding: Mayor Glenn W. Dalling
Meeting Convened at 6:30 p.m.
Prayer: Mayor Dalling
Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Dalling; Sharon L. Bell, Clerk; Marcie A. Smith, Treasurer; Councilmembers Bruce King, Brad Orme and Lamont Merrill; Brian Hawkes and Steve Hawkes, Planning & Zoning Commission. Councilmember Harold Harris was excused.

PUBLIC HEARING (Proposed Budget 2009-2010): Mayor Dalling welcomed everyone and brought the public hearing to order. He presented a brief review of the procedure for the public hearing and asked Treasurer Marcie Smith to introduce the subject of tonight's hearing. Marcie reviewed the general fund and the utility fund budget items. City Clerk Sharon Bell reported there was no prior written testimony submitted. With the sign-up sheet of the public hearing in hand, Mayor Dalling called first for those in favor of approving the proposed budget. No one testified.

The mayor called for those neutral to the proposal to testify. No one testified.
The mayor then called for those against the proposal to testify. No one testified.

6:40 p.m. The public hearing ended, and the council convened its regular meeting.

Present: Mayor Dalling; Sharon L. Bell, Clerk; Marcie A. Smith, Treasurer; Councilmembers Bruce King, Brad Orme and Lamont Merrill; Brian Hawkes, Steve Hawkes, Jesse Brown and Vaun Waddell, Planning & Zoning Commission; and Nathan Sunderland, *Standard Journal*. Councilmember Harold Harris was excused for part of the meeting.

ADOPT 2009-2010 BUDGET: It was moved by Councilmember Orme and seconded by Councilmember Merrill to adopt the 2009-2010 budget as noticed in the newspaper and presented at the public hearing tonight. The mayor called for a roll call vote:

Those voting aye: Councilmembers King, Orme and Merrill
Those voting nay: None

Thereupon, the mayor declared the motion passed.

The Mayor asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 13, 2009. Each Councilmember had a copy of said minutes prior to the meeting. It was moved by Councilmember Merrill and seconded by Councilmember King to accept said minutes,

subject to a correction of the amounts in the sewer rates; motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT: P&Z Chairman Brian Hawkes addressed the council.

Sugar City rezoning map: Steve Hawkes reported on his update to the zoning chart, which comprises three maps: (1) current zoning map, (2) parcels proposed for rezoning, and (3) proposed zoning map. This chart will be inserted with the September newsletter in the next city utility billings. The city attorney said everyone within 300 feet of affected parcels should receive notice of the public hearing. Notices will be posted on the affected parcels of property seven days before the public hearing, which is set for 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2009.

7:00 p.m. Councilmember Harold Harris arrived.

Wind turbine ordinance: Brian said that Attorney Forsberg recommended that P&Z amend title 9 to call for a special use permit to erect a wind turbine and that the commission modify the comprehensive plan to include wind turbines as a natural resource. The attorney suggested doing this as a package for public hearing. Consequently, P&Z will not hold a public hearing on the wind turbine ordinance at this time. Brian asked the council to review the wind turbine ordinance and to provide P&Z with feedback.

Updating title 9: Brian said that commissioners reviewed the model ordinance from the Association of Idaho Cities and would like to incorporate some of its provisions in title 9. They are currently updating title 9, with the goal of finishing by year-end. At a later date, the commission will incorporate title 9, the comprehensive plan and the wind turbine ordinance for public hearing.

BRUCE KING – Title 1: Bruce reported that he, Attorney Forsberg and P&Z Commissioner Vaun Waddell have approved each other's revisions to the new title 1. The file sent to the mayor, council and staff on Aug. 24 is the result of their joint efforts. The attorney said the council may adopt this revised title 1 without holding another public hearing. The mayor asked that the council review the proposed title 1 in preparation for discussing it on September 10. He requested that Sharon include title 1 as an entry on the September 10 agenda.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS:

Contractor problems on Center Street: Harold said the cross drain on North Austin is not functioning properly. He is withholding money from Edstrom Construction until the problem is resolved. He said there are some areas on Center Street so flat that it is hard to achieve appropriate drainage. The Idaho Transportation Department gave the city permission to install new storm drains and lines on Center Street preparatory to a state-approved contractor resurfacing the street in late August or September. The transportation department reported that although officials in Boise have opened construction bids from contractors, work will likely not begin until spring. This announcement leaves the city with open trenches, which, with winter approaching, is a major concern. Fortunately, the transportation department has guaranteed the city that its crews will seal these trenches before winter. In fact, work to do so is proceeding at the present time.

Crack sealing, seal coating: Harold has talked with a contractor about crack-sealing and seal-coating, which the contractor cannot do until mid October. He is working with civil engineer Troy Williams on the approach to Highway 33 on the east end of town.

COUNCILMEMBER ORME: No report.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Bruce reported that the transportation department opened bids for resurfacing Idaho Highway 33 between Rexburg and Sugar City on Tuesday. HK Contractors Inc. of Idaho Falls was low bidder at \$2.4 million. The project will include resurfacing a stretch of U.S. Highway 20 between the Madison-Fremont county line and the south St. Anthony off-ramp.

COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL:

Well connections: Lamont talked with City Engineer Dick Dyer about filling the water storage tank from wells #1 and #2 when well #4 fails. Dick feels that wells #1 and #2 are automatically activated into the lines when the pressure drops to low levels, which should be adequate. He said what the city wants to do would be very expensive. In the event of an electrical failure, a generator is automatically started to pump water at well #1 and to run the booster pump. Dick suggests if there was a problem with well #4 and with the booster pump from electrical or mechanical failure, the city would need a portable generator to activate wells #1 and/or #2.

Lamont also talked with Dick Dyer about manholes south of town, which are three feet below ground surface. Dick estimates that 400 gallons per minute of wastewater flows down Sugar City's sewer line to Rexburg. Zane has talked to someone about coming to videotape the line. When the land owner flood irrigates the field south of town, Sugar City's wastewater flow to Rexburg increases significantly.

The mayor and council discussed the status of grant writing. The mayor said Sugar City resident Scott Bergstrom, a professional in this area, has volunteered to help. He requests some ideas for potential grants.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS:

Long-term planning: The mayor reported a few projects he would like to see implemented in the city and asked the council to think about them and provide input.

Report on mayor's regional workshop: The mayor attended a meeting in Island Park at which every city in the region acknowledged financial problems because of reduced federal and state revenues. Armed with a little financial reserve/savings, Sugar City seems better positioned to weather the economic downturn than most other municipalities. In a presentation at the meeting, Senator Brent Hill said that reserves at the state level were helping Idaho manage in the recession. Senator Hill also reported that, in a nationwide Freedom Study, Idaho ranked high in virtually every category, achieving the fourth highest ranking overall among the 50 states.

Business Park management agreement: The mayor said Madison Economic Partners (Clair Boyle is executive director) will manage the sale of properties in the business park. Sugar City needs to finalize its property management agreement with Madison Economic Partners. With the council's permission, the mayor assigned Councilmember King to review the latest draft of the agreement. The mayor and council discussed installing a sign on the property to list lots for sale. Councilmember Harris will meet with a sign company on suggestions for the proposed sign.

The mayor entertained a motion to go into executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

8:35 p.m. It was moved by Councilmember Orme and seconded by Councilmember King,

pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345(1)(b) to move into executive session to discuss personnel issues, namely, filling vacancies on the P&Z Commission. The mayor called for a roll call vote:

Those voting aye: Councilmembers Harris, King, Orme and Merrill

Those voting nay: None

Thereupon the mayor declared the motion passed.

Discussion in executive session was on whom to appoint to fill vacancies on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

8:55 p.m. The executive session ended and the regular council meeting adjourned.

Signed: _____
Glenn W. Dalling, Mayor

Attested: _____
Sharon L. Bell, Clerk